

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TOKYO 06163 270817Z
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 FEA-01 ACDA-10
CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08
NRC-07 DODE-00 /073 W
-----270911Z 008320 /22

R 270803Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7284
INFO ERDA GERMANTOWN
ERDA WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 6163

DEPT PLS PASS NRC FOR DR. GILINSKY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, JA
SUBJECT: STATUS JAPANESE UTILITY SPENT FUEL STORAGE

1. THE NIHON KEIZAI REPORTED ON APRIL 25 THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS SECRETLY REQUESTING DATA ON THE SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL INVENTORY AND STORAGE CAPACITY IN JAPAN. THE REPORTED PURPOSE OF THE INQUIRY WAS TO DETERMINE TO WHAT EXTENT JAPAN COULD AFFORD TO POSTPONE SPENT FUEL REPROCESSING. THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT WAS REPORTED TO HAVE REFUSED TO PROVIDE THE REQUESTED DATA, AND RECONFIRMED ITS POLICY OF BRINGING THE FIRST SPENT FUEL TO THE TOKAI REPROCESSING PLANT IN MID-MAY AS SCHEDULED.

2. IN ACTUALITY, THE REQUESTS WERE MADE OPENLY TO GOJ BY THE EMBASSY ERDA REP IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST OF NRC COMMISSIONER GILINSKY AND REPORTED IN TOKYO 4311 AND 5341. BOTH THE UTILITIES AND GOJ PROVIDED DATA WITH SOME RELUCTANCE AND HEDGING, BUT ONLY ON PU BALANCE DID GOJ REQUEST CLASSIFICATION.

3. ROUGH COMPUTATION SHOWS THAT THE 12 LWR PLANTS NOW IN OPERATION WILL PRODUCE ABOUT 210 TONS OF SPENT FUEL THIS YEAR.
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IN ADDITION, THERE IS CONSIDERABLE QUANTITY FROM PRIOR OPERATION. PRESENT STORAGE CAPACITIES ARE 90 TONS (TOKAI REPROCESSING PLANT'S POOL, OF WHICH 30 TONS IS FOR NATURAL URANIUM,) PLUS SMALL CAPACITIES AT EACH OF THE RESPECTIVE POWER PLANTS.

4. THE ACCUMULATION OF SPENT FUEL IS SOMEWHAT SMALLER THAN ANTICIPATED SINCE PLANT FACTORS HAVE BEEN LOWER THAN

EXPECTED. ALSO, SINCE IT WAS ANTICIPATED THAT THE START OF
OPERATION OF THE REPROCESSING PLANT WOULD BE MORE THAN TWO YEARS
BEHIND SCHEDULE (ORIGINALLY JFY 1975), MOST UTILITIES HAVE OR
ARE PLANNING TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF THEIR STORAGE POOLS.
SHOESMITH

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DATA, NUCLEAR FUELS, NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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SAS ID: 2673474
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: STATUS JAPANESE UTILITY SPENT FUEL STORAGE
TAGS: TECH, JA, US
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